Homeland Security

NIPP NEWS

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION PLAN

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Critical Infrastructure Activities and Events

DHS Leadership Addresses the Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council (CIPAC) Plenary Meeting

On October 13, 2010, the Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) hosted the 2010 CIPAC Plenary at the Hyatt Regency in Bethesda, Maryland. In addition to the council members, the session attracted more than 100 attendees from the public and private sectors to engage in an open dialogue about critical infrastructure protection and resilience activities.

DHS Deputy Secretary Jane Holl Lute delivered opening remarks and emphasized the Department's focus on ensuring that critical infrastructure is safe, secure, and resilient. She discussed the five core missions outlined in the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review and highlighted the increasingly important mission of safeguarding and securing cyber space. She also emphasized the importance of enterprise resilience and partnerships in securing the safety of the Nation.

Deputy Secretary Lute's remarks set the stage for lively and focused roundtable discussions on two topics: Interdependencies and Regionalization and Information Sharing and Cybersecurity. Panelists included representatives from the DHS Office of Cybersecurity and Communications (CS&C); IP; the State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council; and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, among others. In the first roundtable discussion, panelists provided examples of how they approached regionalization and cross-sector interdependency efforts in their States or regions. In the second roundtable, the panelists discussed successes, such as the Cross-Sector Cybersecurity Working Group and the complexities of integrating cybersecurity into the information-sharing environment.

In their closing remarks, both National Protection and Programs Directorate Under Secretary Rand Beers and IP Assistant Secretary Todd Keil emphasized the importance of collaboration and effective two-way information sharing to enhancing the protection and resilience of critical infrastructure. Assistant Secretary Keil further reiterated IP's commitment to ensuring responsiveness to stakeholders through programs that support their initiatives and address their needs. "It is my sincere belief," Assistant Secretary Keil noted, "that the benefits of [our] mission-oriented programs can only be realized when there is full and active participation of both government and industry partners." To learn more about CIPAC, visit http://www.dhs.gov/files/committees/editorial_0843.shtm.

Topics in this Issue

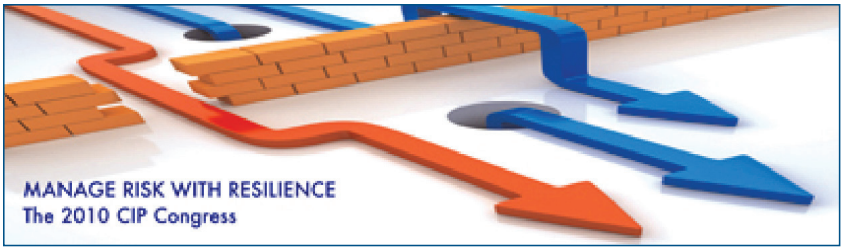
Don't Miss the 2010 CIP Congress

The National Council of Information Sharing and Analysis Centers, the Partnership for Critical Infrastructure Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's InfraGard program, and the Business Continuity Institute are hosting the 2010 Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Congress at the Gaylord Resort & Convention Center at National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland, November 30 through December 2. The theme of the 2010 CIP Congress is Manage Risk with Resilience. The Congress will provide practitioners in the critical infrastructure protection community with solutions, best practices, and information to enable them to respond to potential threats or actual incidents, and reconstitute their operations rapidly after an event.

Keynote speakers will include the following:

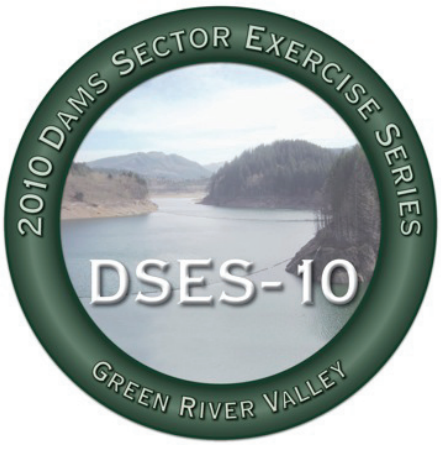
- Senator Joe Lieberman, one of Congress's most influential voices on security issues and the Senate's leading champion of legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security;
- Howard Schmidt, Cybersecurity Coordinator for the Obama Administration; and
- Henry Crumpton, Ambassador-at-Large with the State Department, who has spent much of his career spearheading counterterrorism initiatives at State and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Break-out sessions will follow four tracts: (1) Business Resiliency; (2) Physical Security; (3) Cyber Security and; (4) Information Sharing. The Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) will have a significant presence at the conference, including Assistant Secretary Todd Keil, who will deliver remarks at the general session regarding "A New Direction for Infrastructure Protection." IP subject matter experts will facilitate various panel discussions designed to bring together leading practitioners and policymakers from industry and government to identify security trends, emerging threats, and mitigation efforts. For more information about the 2010 CIP Congress, visit www.cip2010.com.



News from the Sectors

The Dams Sector Continues Regional Resilience Exercises in Washington State



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and public and private stakeholders from the Green River Valley in Washington State continue to collaborate in the 2010 Dams Sector Exercise Series – Green River Valley (DSES-10), which focuses on the analysis of short- and long-term regional impacts resulting from a flooding scenario affecting the King County communities of Auburn, Kent, Renton, and Tukwila.

The primary goals of this collaborative effort are to achieve a greater understanding of the potential impacts associated with significant flooding events, identify critical infrastructure interdependencies that influence local and regional disruptions, and assist public and private stakeholders in improving recovery strategies and business continuity plans, thus enhancing regional resilience and promoting robust partnerships at the local and regional levels.

DSES-10 is being conducted through a series of workshops and conferences, most recently, the Regional Consequence Assessment Workshop conducted on October 21, 2010 in Seattle. The workshop had 63 attendees, including Federal, State, and local government representatives, as well as stakeholders from private sector and nonprofit organizations.

The workshop was a working session to discuss consequence assessment activities focused on the evaluation of direct and indirect economic impacts caused by a significant flood event, including cascading effects resulting from infrastructure disruptions. Results from the consequence assessment ultimately will support development of a regional resilience strategy that will enhance the effectiveness of local and regional recovery planning priorities in addressing impacts and disruptions caused by a significant flood event. The strategy also will

identify actions, programs, and implementation mechanisms that can assist public and private sector stakeholders in managing risks to critical infrastructure and enhancing regional resilience.

The final DSES-10 event will be the Regional Resilience Conference, currently scheduled for March 2011 in Seattle. This conference will serve a key role in finalizing the regional resilience strategy. For additional information regarding DSES-10, please contact DSES10@dhs.gov.

General Aviation Coalition Working Group Urges Economic Impact Analysis of Federal Programs That Limit Flights

The General Aviation Working Group held its semi-annual meeting on October 25, 2010. The working group is a coalition of general aviation industry officials who meet with Transportation Systems Sector partners in the Transportation Security Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration to share ideas about security issues involving general aviation operations and infrastructure. General aviation includes those facilities, aircraft, and operations not covered by commercial airline and Federal airport regulations.

General aviation industry officials expressed a desire for security and infrastructure protection needs to be balanced with the industry's need to recover from the recent economic downturn. They stressed that Federal requirements, such as frequent temporary flight restrictions (TFRs), can severely hamper the industry's capacity to conduct business. The FAA implements TFRs via the U.S. Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) system to restrict certain aircraft from operating within a defined area, on a temporary basis, to protect persons or property in the air or on the ground. While industry representatives understand the necessity of implementing security measures such as TFRs, they emphasized the importance of understanding the economic impacts and providing information on those impacts to government and industry to inform future policy.

The working group also discussed updates to the 2004 publication "Security Guidelines for General Aviation Airports," and the TSA's preliminary plans for issuing guidance for the anticipated Federal grant funding to enhance security at general aviation airports in Fiscal Year 2011. Finally, TSA explained changes to the DCA Access Standard Security Program currently under consideration, which could allow greater flexibility for operators flying to and from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

New All-Hazards Risk Assessment and Consequence Analysis Tools Now Available for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has made available two free software tools for risk assessment and consequence analysis:

- Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool (VSAT), a recently upgraded all-hazards risk assessment tool; and
- Water Health and Economic Analysis Tool (WHEAT), a newly developed consequence analysis tool.

Developed by EPA in collaboration with Water Sector partners, the new VSAT and WHEAT will provide drinking water, wastewater, and combined utilities of all sizes with the capability to assess, plan for, and better respond to manmade threats and natural disasters.

VSAT is an interactive, desktop software tool that employs a proven methodology to enable users to perform customized risk assessments. VSAT was originally designed to assess a utility's risk from terrorist threats; the upgraded tool has a new feature that allows users to assess four different natural disaster scenarios—hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and earthquakes. VSAT has the flexibility to assess vulnerability for other types of natural disasters as well.

WHEAT is an intuitive desktop software tool that assists drinking water utility owners and operators in quantifying public health impacts, utility financial costs, and regional economic impacts of an accidental or adverse event. Currently, WHEAT generates consequence results based on two scenarios for drinking water utilities: (1) release of a hazardous gas and (2) loss of operating assets. EPA plans to develop similar wastewater utility modules in the future.

The benefits that these tools offer to drinking water and wastewater utilities include:

- Users can easily import consequence results from WHEAT into VSAT to better refine consequence assessments that support overall risk assessments;
- Users can use VSAT to develop utility-specific risk analysis summaries and reports and create an emergency response plan;
- Reports from VSAT and WHEAT can assist in setting resource allocation priorities and aid in business continuity planning; and

• Both tools can help build more secure and resilient drinking water and wastewater infrastructure to ensure clean and safe water.

The VSAT and WHEAT tools are available for download through EPA's Web site at: http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/watersecurity/techtools/index.cfm

For more information about VSAT and WHEAT, contact John DeGour at degour.john@epa.gov or Curt Baranowski at baranowski.curt@epa.gov.

Secretary Napolitano Announces New Security Measures for Air Cargo

Following the thwarted terrorist plot in early November to conceal and ship explosive devices onboard aircraft bound for the U.S., the Obama Administration took immediate steps to increase security by tightening existing measures related to cargo bound for the United States, including:

• Adapting inbound cargo targeting rules to reflect the latest intelligence and ordering a ground halt on all cargo from Yemen;

• Sending TSA inspectors to Yemen to meet with government security officials and assist in enhancing Yemen's security procedures;

• Extending the ban on air cargo to include all air cargo from Somalia;

• Prohibiting toner and ink cartridges over 16 ounces on passenger aircraft in both carry-on bags and checked bags on domestic and international flights in-bound to the United States; and

• Requiring that international mail packages be screened individually and certified to have come from an established postal shipper.

In addition, the Administration is working closely with industry and our international partners to expedite the receipt of cargo manifests for in-bound international flights prior to departure in order to identify and screen items based on risk and current intelligence.

For more information on air cargo security, visit: http://www.tsa.gov/what_we_do/tsnm/air_cargo/index.shtm

> Resources Available for DHS Critical Infrastructure Partners

Infrastructure Protection (IP) sponsors a free online NIPP training course at http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp. IP also has a trade show booth available for sector use. Please contact NIPP@dhs.gov for information on IP participation and/or exhibition at an upcoming sector event or to schedule a trained speaker for your event.

> Implementation Success Stories

IP continues to seek NIPP and/or SSP implementation success stories from the sectors to be shared with other critical infrastructure partners. Please submit suggestions or brief write-ups to NIPP@dhs.gov.

> NIPP News

The NIPP News is produced by the Office of Infrastructure Protection. NIPP partners are welcome to submit input. To submit information for inclusion in upcoming issues, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov. Recipients of this newsletter are encouraged to disseminate it further to their critical infrastructure partners.

> Learn more about the DHS critical infrastructure protection program at www.dhs.gov/criticalinfrastructure.